AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A retractor for use in surgery, the retractor having two arms each adapted to carry a blade engageable with one side of an incision, the two arms being connected by a pivot at one end portion such that the arms can be pivoted between a closed position and an adjustable open position in which the arms define a substantially V-shaped configuration in which the blades maintain the sides of the incision in inclined relation, and means for retaining the arms in the open position, wherein each blade has a mounting portion engageable on the arm so as to at least partially surround the arm and displaceable longitudinally along the arm, and wherein the arm is shaped to provide a series of abutment edges spaced in the longitudinal direction of the arm and engageable with a part of the mounting portion of the blade so as to lock the mounting portion to the arm against displacement from a selected position along the arm at least in one longitudinal direction, ~~wherein the arm is of polygonal cross-section~~ wherein the mounting portion has an inner surface of a diameter slightly greater than that of the arm whereby when the mounting portion is held substantially parallel to the arm it is slidable longitudinally along the arm into a selected position on the arm, and when the mounting portion is then skewed slightly relative to the arm the mounting portion can engage an adjacent one of the abutment edges to thereby provide

the said lock for the mounting portion.

7-21. (Cancelled)

22. (new) A retractor according to claim 6, wherein the arm is of polygonal cross-section and the abutment edges are defined by a series of grooves spaced along the length of the arm and positioned to intersect at least some of the corner portions of the polygonal cross-section whereby locking of the mounting portion when skewed relative to the arm occurs by engagement of an edge of the mounting portion with a said groove in an adjacent corner portion of the arm.

23. (new) A retractor according to claim 22, wherein the inner surface of the mounting portion is formed with multiple longitudinal grooves distributed around the mounting portion to enable the mounting portion to be retained on the arm in a selected one of multiple angular positions of the mounting portion relative to the arm by engagement of different ones of the grooves with the respective corner portions of the polygonal cross-section.

24. (new) A retractor according to claim 6 having a set of said blades, wherein the internal surfaces of the mounting portions of some of the blades of the set are so configured in relation to the cross-sectional shape of the arms that the mounting portion is able to rotate about the axis of the arm, and the mounting portions of others of the blades are so configured in relation to the cross-sectional shape of the arms that the

mounting portions can be locked in a selected one of multiple possible angular positions relative to the axis of the arm.

25. (new) A retractor according to claim 24, wherein the arm is of a polygonal cross-section having at least six sides.

26. (new) A retractor according to claim 25, wherein the abutment edges are defined by grooves spaced along the length of the arm and positioned to intersect at least some of the corner portions of the polygonal cross-section whereby locking of the mounting portion when the mounting portion is skewed occurs by engagement of an edge of the mounting portion with a said groove in an adjacent corner portion of the arm.

27. (new) A retractor according to claim 24, wherein each blade with its mounting portion is of one-piece construction.